625 well lighted and policemen regularly patrol the city. Mounted police are used when large crowds are expected in case of a parade or outdoor festival, but disorder during these events is extremely rare. The calm and slow Finns are not at all inclined to rioting or loud demonstrations.

674 Finland shows a higher annual percentage of criminal cases than Sweden, for example, especially as far as murder or manslaughter are concerned. Alcohol is a significant factor in the majority of violent crimes, and it is known that Finns do not take well to liquor. Larceny and fraud are less frequent; the Finns have of old a reputation of being honest and dependable people, but it is difficult to say if this is well

• 681 deserved. Many people feel that the existing penal code is too lenient and does not present

281 enough of a threat to deter potential criminals from trespassing the law. There is no capital punishment for any kind of crime, and prisoners are treated humanely and generously. A recent Gallup poll among the people indicated that about 68 per cent of the population would be in favor of capital punishment in cases of premeditated murder.

692 The judicial system is inherited from the early Middle Ages and was developed further during the Swedish-Finnish period. Its reliability and impartiality are almost proverbial; no cases of bribery or other illegal action are known to have occurred and it is trusted and esteemed by all the people. The Public Courts of Justice handle both civil and criminal cases. The lowest courts are the Circuit Courts in the rural areas and Municipal Courts in the cities.